

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-07 IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 EPG-02

SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 INT-05 AF-10 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /113 W

-----111755Z 021278 /43

P R 111700Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4533

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD, FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER BUREAU (ITTB)

REF: (A) STATE 103633 (NOTAL) (B) ROME 7562 (NOTAL)

(C) GENEVA 2906

1. EMBOFF TRIED TO CONTACT DR. KENNETH KING PER REFTEL (B), BUT SINCE HE IS OUT OF TOWN, TALKED TO THEO ERFURTH. ERFURTH IS FAO FOREST PRODUCTS MARKETING OFFICER IN CHARGE OF OFFICE WHICH NEW ITTB WOULD MOST DUPLICATE. AFTER LENGTHY CONVERSATION DEGREE OF OVERLAP AND DUPLICATION IS STILL UNCLEAR, BUT SEVERAL POINTS MAY BE OF USE.

2. FAO HELPED UNCTAD PREPARE PAPER FOR UNCTAD TROPICAL TIMBER COMMODITIES MEETING. THIS PAPER, NOT AVAILABLE YET IN ROME, WAS APPROVED BY THE FAO AND REFERS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ITTB. ACCORDINGLY THE FAO APPROVES OF AN ITTB. FURTHER IN LINE WITH FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S POLICY FAO WILL NOT

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DIRECTLY OPPOSE UNCTAD. ERFURTH CITED MOST RECENT COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS (CCP) REPORT WHICH LOOKS TO INCREASED FAO ROLE ON COMMODITIES, REFTEL (B). ERFURTH ALSO INDICATED FAO AND UNCTAD WERE IN AGREEMENT ON ITTB ACTIVITIES IN MARKET PROMOTION WHICH WERE MORE RESTRICTED THAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER (ITC) VIEW OF ITTB.

3. ERFURTH NOTED THAT ITC HAD BEEN WORKING ON ITTB FOR 10 YEARS AND THE FAO HAS COLLABORATED AND GIVEN A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PROJECT.

4. ERFURTH ALSO ADMITTED THAT SOMETIME A DECISION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE DELINEATING WHAT A FUTURE ITTB WOULD DO AND WHAT FAO WOULD DO IN TROPICAL TIMBER AREA. ERFURTH POINTED OUT HIS OFFICE, SUPPORTED BY FAO COUNCIL AND FAO FORESTRY COMMITTEE IS EXPANDING ITS PUBLICATIONS ON TROPICAL TIMBER MARKETING. ERFURTH GAVE EMBOFF SOME OF THESE NEW PUBLICATIONS: THE QUARTERLY ROUND-UP OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS WHICH HAVE INFLUENCED TROPICAL FORESTRY PRODUCTS TRADE DURING LAST QUARTER, THE MARKETING OF SOUTH AMERICAN TROPICAL WOOD, THE MARKETING OF AFRICAN TROPICAL WOOD, THE MARKETING OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN TROPICAL WOOD, SYMPOSIUM OFN RESEARCH AND MARKETING OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN TIMBERS AND TIMBER PRODUCTS, GRADI G SYSTEMS AND RULES OF TROPICAL HARDWOOD SAWN TIMBERS IN JAPAN, A SIMILAR PUBLICATION FOR EUROPE, A MONTHLY BULLETIN WHICH IS A TYPE OF EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR TROPICAL TIMBER, AND OF COURSE THE ANNUAL STATISTICAL YEARBOOK.

5. FROM THE ABOVE, IT WOULD SEEM THE FAO SUUPLIES THE MARKETING DATA NEEDED IN THE TROPICAL TIMBER AREA. WHAT IS NEEDED IS MARKET PROMOTION AND THAT IS WHAT THE FAO SEES AN ITTB DOING THE THEREFORE SUPPORTIVE OF FAO'S MORE BASIC TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND KNOWLEDGE.  
GARDNER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WOOD PRODUCTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MEETING REPORTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 103633, 77 ROME 7562, 77 GENEVA 2906  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** ETRD, OCON, EPAP, US, IT, UNCTAD, FAO, ITTB, INTL TROPICAL TIMBER BUREAU,  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009